SYNOPSIS.

Major McDenaid, commanding an army post near Fort Dedge seeks a man to inserved his daughter. Molly, who is besaded for the post. An Indian authreak is threatened. "Brick" Hamin. sergean who has just arrived with messages in McDonald, volunteers for the mission. Molly arrives at Fort Ripley two days annual of schedule. She declies to puse on to Fort Pootse by stage in company with "Satier Hill Moylan. Consales, a gambler is also a passenger. Heating mosts the stage with stories of depredations committed by the Indians. The driver deserts the stage when Indians appear. The indians are twice required. Hamin and Molly escape in the deriver deserts the stage when Indians appear and indian and Molly escape in the darkness. Molly is wounded. Hamin is much excited at finding a haversack marked it. S. A. He explains to Molly that he was in the Confederate service and dismissed in disgrace linker the war he enlisted in the regular service. He says the haversack was the property of one Capture in the Capture of the harden and dismissed in the regular service. He says the haversack was the prisperty of one Capture in the Capture of Molly hidner of Lieut Gaskins Molly starts to foir her father. Hamin capture in the father said under escont of Lieut Gaskins Molly starts to foir her father. Hamin capture of Molly hidner in the darkness and sees what he believes is the Capture of Molly hidner in the darkness and fathe aver the body of Lieutenant Caskins who are uses Hamilit of shooting him. The servenit is proven innocent He sees Molly in company with Mrs. Dupont, whose her to send him a lying total later her over the later has been loved in the father have been as has been loved in the father have been as her have been him a lying total Later her over the hold of Lieutenant.

And the poor to have here him a lying total Later her over here has her him a lying total Later her over here he has been loved in a field while seeks an interview with Hamilin. Major McDonald, commanding an army plot Moll seeks an interview with

CHAPTER XIX .- Continued.

"It is all right, Miss McDonald," he murmured hactily, arising. "There is nothing to fear

"You are here-alone?"

Yes," smiling in memory. "There ing interrupted. were occupants when I first arrived. but they were persuaded to depart 1 had a suspicion you might prefer it most our entire class went, and the Little by little she has drawn the Lieu-

"Yes," puzzled by his manner, yet me in rank." softly pushing the door back so as to exclude the light. "I can see better now. Are-are you sure no one can told you of him out there in the sandeverhear? I have something to tell hills. Well, I urged her to marry me you - something important "

It is not private, you know. We shall

the twitching of her nerves.

"You are frightened-not of me, orely?"

"I condemn" Hardly, Miss McDonald. I am merely a soldier receiving orders, mine not to question why. Here is the window; now sit down on this bench. I'll keep guard, and listen." His voice rank lower, a little rough of tenderness in it impossible to disguise. "Are you in trouble? Is It something I can aid you to over-

She did not answer at once but rested her chin in one hand, and turned her eyes away. Her breath came swiftly, as though she had not yet recovered from fright, and her face in the dim light looked white and drawn

"Yes, you can," she began slowly. I am sure you can. I-I came to you because there was no one else in whom I felt the same confidence. I know that sounds strange, but I cannot explain-only it seems natural to trust some people even when you do not know them very well. I do not suppose I know you very well; just Those few hours we were together, but semehow I think you are true."

"I certainly hope so," he put in earmostly. "I couldn't very well help heing-with you."

"I believe that," and she lifted her eyes to his face.

think so, do you?"

too glad to be of service.

nce, there was no one else. "Your father?" he suggested.

"But that is the very trouble," she insisted, rejoicing that he had thus unconsciously opened the way to her confession. "It is because my father is involved, is completely in her toils, that I am compelled to appeal to you He will not listen to a word against her.

"Her? You refer to Mrs. Dupont?"

COFFRONT 1912 BY A.C.MCLURG & CO.

"Of course; why, I hadn't mentioned her name! How did you guess?" Because I am not entirely ignorant of conditions," he answered soberly. 'Although I have only been at the post a short time, I have managed to see and hear a good deal. You know I chanced to become involved in the shooting of Lieutenant Gaskins, and then I saw you riding with Mrs. Dupont, and recognized her."

"Recognized?" in surprise. "Do you actually mean you knew her before?" "Not as Mrs. Dupont, but as Vera Carson, years ago. She knew me at once, and sent your driver over to the

barracks with a note." "Why, how strange. She asked me so many questions, I wondered at the interest shown. Do you mind telling me what the note was about?"

"Not in the least. She referred to the past, and asked me to meet her." "Were you-very intimate? Great friends ?"

"We were engaged to be married," he acknowledged frankly, his eyes upon her face. 'That was at the breaking out of the war, and I was in my senior college year. We met at school, and I was supposed to be the heir to large property. She is a beau-Hul woman now, and she was a beautiful girl then. I thought her as good and true as she was charming. Since then I have learned her selfishness and deceit, that it was my money which attracted her, and that she really loved another man, a classmate."

She glanced up at him as he paused, but he resumed the story without be-

"The war came, and I enlisted at once, and received a commission. Alman she really loved was next below

"Eugene Le Pevre?"

"Yes, how did you know? Oh, I There is no one else here, yet some made excuses. Later, I understood one might stumble into this room, the reason. She was uncertain as to my inheriting the property of an be safer on the perch outside. Will uncle. We were ordered to the Army, you take my hand, and let me guide of Northern Virginia. Once I went ome on furlough, severely wounded She did so unhestiatingly, but her We were to be married then, but I had fugers were cold, and he could feel not sufficiently recovered when I was suddenly ordered back to the front I did suspect then, for the first time, that she was glad of the respite. I "Oh, no!" a slight catch in her afterwards discovered that during all voice, "but I am running such a risk this time she was in correspondence venturing here. I-I had to pretend a with Le Fevre, who had been detailed sick headache to get away. You must on Early's staff. It was his influence rail condemn me until you hear why which brought about my sudden, unexpected recall to duty. A few m later I was promoted major, and, at Fisher's Hill, found myself commanding the regiment. Early in the action Le Fevre brought me an order; it was delivered verbally, the only other party present a corporal named Shuitz, German knowing little English. Early's exact words were: 'Advance at once across the creek, and engage the enemy fiercely; a supporting column will move immediately.' Desperate as the duty involved appeared. there was nothing in the order as given to arouse suspicion. In obedience Gaskins later denied knowing who his them on foot. We charged into a trap, accuse me-is abundant proof of their rail until it touched hers. and were nearly annihilated, and Shultz was either killed, or made pris- her silence. "What puzzles me most oner. Two days later I was arrested is why you were present." under charges, was tried by court-martial, and dismissed from the service in disgrace. Early produced a copy of his written order; it read 'cautious-Fevre went on the stand, and swore me. I had no witnesses."

She watched him with wide-open eyes, her lips parted.

"And she-this Vera Carson?" The man laughed bitterly.

"Wrote him a letter, which the man actually had the nerve to show me Yet I do not wish you to think me when I was helpless, proving her hold, or-or indiscreet. You do not falsity. I would not believe, and went got merely a glimpse," he explained back seeking her. But she had de-"That idea has never once occurred parted-no one knew where-but had to me, Miss McDonald. I am only first convinced herself that my name had been erased from my uncle's will. It is good of you to say that; you Two months later I heard that she

married Le Fevre in Richmond." "And she-that woman-actually asked you to meet her again tonight?"

"Did you?" "I must plead guilty."

"Where?" "Here; just where we are now; we were together half an hour."

She half arose to her feet, her hand grasping the rail.

"But I cannot understand. Why should you? Do you-"

"No; wait," he interrupted, venturing to touch her arm. "I came, not because of any interest in her, Miss Molly-but for you."

CHAPTER XX.

Molly Tells Her Story. Her breath came in a little sob, and she sank back on the beach.

"For me? How do you mean?" "Surely I had every reason to distrust her, to question her character, and I could not believe you realized the sort of woman she is. I felt it my duty to discover her purpose here, and to warn you if possible."

"And eyou have succeeded? You learned her purpose in your interview?"

"Not exactly," with regret. suspicion was merely stimulated. To tell the truth, we rather drifted into a renewal of our old quarrel. However, between what she said, and parts of another conversation overheard, I know there is a blackmailing conspiracy on foot in which you are in-

volved. May I speak very frankly?" am not aware that I have anything to conceal."

"Apparently the scheme these people have on foot originated about Lieutenant Gaskins. He is wealthy, I understand."

"I have been told so; yes, I know he is.

"This knowledge, coupled with the fact of your engagement-"My what?"

"Your engagement. I had heard it rumored before, and Mrs. Dupont assured me it was true."

"But it is not true, Sergeant Hamlin"-indignantly. "I cannot imagine how such a report ever started. Lieutenant Gaskins has been very friendly; has-" her voice breaking slightly, even asked me to marry him, butbut I told him that was impossible. He has been just as kind to me since, but there is nothing, absolutely nothing between us. I have never spoken about this before to any one."

If Hamlin's heart leaped wildly at this swift denial, there was no evidence of it in his quiet voice.

"The point is, Miss Molly, that Mrs. Dupont, and those connected with her, think otherwise. They are presuming on Gaskins' being in love with you. Mrs. Dupont can be very seductive. tenant into her net. Helleving him engaged to you, they have him now where he must either pay money for silence or be exposed. Just how it ing last night was done to convince marry the man. Lately he has been before I went to the front, but she him they were serious. The fact that very unkind about it, and and I am



'We Were Engaged to Be Married." He Acknowledged Frankly.

success." He hesitated, wondering at "Present? Where?"

"At this quarrel with Gaskins last evening. As I ran by toward the scene of the shooting I passed you hiding ly feel the enemy's position, and Le at the angle of the barrack wall. Of course I have mentioned the fact to the original had been delivered to no one. That was why I made no attempt to defend myself when arrest-

> She gasped for breath, scarcely able to articulate.

"You believe that? You think that

of me? "I may have been deceived; I hope so; there was but little light, and I hastily.

"You were deceived," impetuously. "I was not out of the house that evening. I was in the parlor with my father when those shots were fired. You are sure you saw a woman there -hiding?"

"There is no doubt of that; her foot-prints were plainly to be seen in the morning. This discovery, together with the size of the weapon used, resulted in my immediate release. I saw her, and imagined her to be you. I cannot account for the mistake, unless you were in my mind, and possibly what I had heard of your con I I've been operated upon.

nection with Gaskins. Then it must have been Mrs. Dupont. That looks reasonable. But she stays at your home, does she not?"

"She makes our house her headquar ters, but is absent occasionally. Last night she was here at this hotel. Well we are getting this straightened out a little-that is, if you believe me."

"Of course." "Then I am going to question you You spoke of overhearing a conversa-

"Yes; it was after Mrs. Dupont had left. Captain Barrett came, and took her away. I was sitting here thinking when two men came into the parlor.

"Who were they? Do you know?" "One was the soldier who drives you about-Connors; the other a black bearded, burly fellow called 'Reb.' " "Mr. Dupont."

"What? Is that Dupont? Lord! No wonder she's gone bad. Why, I thought her busband was a ranchman down south somewhere! This fellow is a tin-horn." "He did run cattle once, years ago.

I think he was quite well off, but drank and gambled it away. Papa told me all about it, but I found out he was "I certainly desire it," proudly. "I the man by accident. He-is the one I am really afraid of."

She stopped, her eyes deserting his face, and stared out into the darkness. He waited, feeling vaguely that he had not heard all she intended to say.
"What more do you know?" he

asked. "What was it you expected of me?"

She turned again, aroused by the question.

"Yes, I must tell you as quickly as I can before I am missed. I did not know about Mrs. Dupont and Lieutenant Gaskins. I realized there was something between them-a-a-slight fliritation, but scarcely gave that a thought. What brought me here was a much more serious matter, yet this new information helps me to comprehend the other-the motives, I mean. Mrs. Dupont's maiden name was Vera

"Certainly; I knew her family well." She came here, and was received nto our family as a daughter of my father's sister. If true, her maiden name would have been Sarah Counts. Papa had no reason to suspect the dogelt. He does not now, and I doubt if even your word would convince him, for he seems thoroughly under her influence. There has been such a change in him since she came; not all at once, you know, but gradual, until now he scarcely seems like the same man. I-I do not dislike Lieutenant Gaskins; he has been pleasant and attentive, but I do not care for him in any was worked, I do not know. The shoot, other way. Yet papa insists that I sure she is urging him on. What can I do? It is all so unpleasant."

Hamlin shook his head, but without

"You will not tell me? Then I will tell you I shall say no! no! no! in spite of them; I shall refuse to be sold. But how does that woman control my father?" she leaned closer in her earnestness, lowering her voice. "She has not won him by charms; he is afraid of her."

"Afraid? Are you certain of that?" Yes. I cannot tell you how I know; perhaps it is all womanly instinct, but do know that he is terrorized; that dare not oppose her wish. read the truth In his eyes, and I am sure be is harsh to me only because he is driven by some threat. What can it be?"

You have never spoken to him of

our suspicions? Asked him?" "Yes and no. I tried once, and shall never forget the expression of his face. Then he turned on me in a perfect paroxysm of anger I never even dared hint at the matter again."

The Sergeant stared out into the street, not knowing what to say, or how to advise. Almost unconscious of flung my command forward, leading assailants were-even endeavored to the action his hand stole along the

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Something New to Her.

Childish sarcasm seldom is so intended. Usually it is the result of the keen, clear judgment springing from instinctive and instantaneous realization of the truth. But some times it has a cutting ring.

Mr. and Mrs. Stubbs, for instance. are devoted home missionaries. Their children are well used to being told that highly desirable articles of food and clothing are not for them but "for the Lord," or some ecclesiastical equivalent. This fact occasioned little Jessie's recent sharp speech.

"Oh, mother, these cookies smell good!" she cried, entering the kitchen in which her mother was busted. 'Are they for the Young People's society or the Sunday school picnic?"

"Neither, dear," was the answer, they are for you."

Jessie, who had forgotten all about her imminent birthday, was surprised and delighted. "Oh, mother," she exclaimed again, her eyes dancing, "are we really going

Quite Another Thing. Marks-I hear that you have been

operating in the stock market. Parks-You've been misinformed.

to have some ourselves?"

OPENED WAY TO FREEDOM digging a secret tunnel from their but provisioning of the vessel, when they when no trolley or other wheeled were betrayed by a fellow-convict to transport can be had. Besides, if you walk in these days you may be thought to be devil-wagonless; and what is man, woman, life itself without that shoe of swiftness? Old men can remember when bicycling was about as common as taxes. Do folks biavele now? In less golden er snobbisk regions, yes. In this United States workmen and old-fashloned folks and giory of the year, but where are the a few others; but here again the

SMART HATS IN BLACK AND WHITE



OTHING smarter than the black and white checked failured suits has been developed this season. They are the perfection of tasteful cut in simple graceful lines, and made up with a perfection of workmanship which is possible only when machines lend their precision in the process of manufacture. Now that designers use so much of the effects to be obtained only by mechanical work, we find the tailored gown indebted to machine stitching for much of its style.

To be worn with this trig costume the "tallored hat" makes its appearance every season, sure of the earliest welcome and the most lasting favor. Two of the very latest of this most satisfactors headwear are shown here, developed in satin. One shows a beim lifting at the side and faced with black while the body of the hat is satin of a sunny whileness. There is no trimming except a pair of black and white wings incunted with a resette of feathers. They are out-spread as in flight. This hat is so full of style that is will lend distinction to the plainest of gowns.

One of the new sailors is shown developed in black satin which lies smooth to the frame. It is finished with a pair of wings almulated in satin and posed at the back of the hat. The shape is graceful with an elongated crown and a very slight droop to the brim.

JULIA BOTTOMLEY.

VANITY CASES OF ODD DESIGN

Manufacturers Have Devised Many New Ideas for This Indispensable Appendage.

The vanity case has become so much a part of a woman's outfit that the manufacturers are discovering many odd ways for her to carry it.

To take one's powder puff and lip rouge from one's handbag has become commonplace; now a woman can tuck these in her bracelet. One of the new kind has flexible links of gold wire, with the vanity box on top in the shape of an oval medallion with a

basdsome monogram. Or she can wear it around her neck as a sautoir. Pascinating vanity pendants are shown of all styles and prices, from tiny ones of French jewelry to diamond studged boxes no bigger than a child's locket. Among the most popular of the vanity cases for the neck are those of colored Hussian enamel on a linked chain to match.

Again, one may carry a vanity box the end of the parasol, or as the head of a big hatpin, disguised as a charm for her chatelaine, or even set in one of the big buttons that ornament her corsage draperies. One girl, who were a watch on the back of one riding glove, had set in the other a small vanity case ready for instant use when she dismounted. Another girl has a similar case in the end of her crop.

The new opera bags include a vanity box and those that do not may be supplied with them by small peckets sewed to the interior of them

VEIL ADDS MUCH TO EFFECT

Selection of Material and its Adjust ment Are Matters of the Utmost Importance.

One reason why the French woman -aristocrat or bourgeois-invariably looks so smart, is because of the care with which she selects and puts on her veil. Just now she is wearing with her tailored hat a complexion veil of flesh-colored fine maline which, from a short distance does not show at all, and which makes her skin seem of dazzling fairness. On this veil in the center of a threadlike flower spray or leaf pattern in self tone, is embroidered a "beauty" spot in black. and the strip of gauge is adjusted so that the spot strikes the face wherever | hand-painted cut-glass bottle of it most becomes it-on one cheek, on the chin or at one corner of the mouth. This complexion veil, like many of those in all-over chenille-dotted or small hexagon mesh or in flower motifs or irregular mesh, is drawn closely about the face and its ends tucked neatly away under the hat's brim at the back

Craquele meshes in either bold or modest floral or scroll pattern, Shetland and Chantilly lace veils, are worn with elaborate hats about which they are draped in a flowing, loose manner and their ends allowed to fall gracefully over the back of the figure.

This About Blouses. They have walstcoats. That is, walstcoat offects. It is a broad vestee usually The material contrasts with the

blouse Sharp points come out over the skirt front. And it is finished off with fancy

buttons in true vest style.

COOL SUMMER SUIT



Model of white moire trimmed with ruching of black maline. Postillion jacket, with sash failing to hem of

Egyptian Banket.

A reddish brown wicker basket, padded and lined with light brown satin, makes a lovely gift to the graduate or bride, if it contains an exquisitely Egyptian bouquet perfume, and a small satin pad of Mayptian bouquet sachet powder, attached to the handle of the backet by means of parrow satin ribbon. The basket finelf will prove a permanent ornament to the dressing table as a convenient receptacle for trinkets, owing to its padded satin bed.

Traveler's Hint.

Some women, who find the suit case of conventional size often larger than is needed for a short stay, buy the size sold for children's use. These are much easier to carry, and are often amply sufficient. Women going on a long trip will find the little case a great convenience to hold a few belongings for a considerable absense from the supply trunk.

Pretty Baby Caps.

Use white lace allover, and draw the fullness in at the back with ribbon run through a tiny hem. Edge the bonnet with a lace ruffle, and make To date this is the newest touch long strings of fine lace insertion shown of the blouses of the moment, about three inches wide

Ingenuity of Prisoners in Effort to Escape Awakened the Admiration of Their Jailer.

convict settlement of New Caledonia tools and afterwards to form bolts and were two marine engineers who not rivets. long ago received a pardon-strange

and ingenious attempt to escape. . Living together in the same hut, they completed their task. these men were engaged for years in Everything was ready except the

to the beach. At the end of the tunnel they hollowed out a chamber, in which, with pieces of driftwood and little bits of steel and iron smuggled into the hut, they fashioned a boat, Amongst the prisoners in the French | the metal being at first used to make

Then with infinite pains they built as it may seem-for making a daring an engine to propel the boat, and after laboring mightily for seven years

whom they had confided their plan. But so impressed was the French commandant by their marvelous energy. skill, and pattence that he managed after a year to obtain a pardon for

Where Are the Walkers? Excellent days for walking, the feet? Can Americans walk? Will

people who can afford a bicycle must they, do they walk? A few, perhaps, have a motor car.-New York Sun.